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# Extension Service REVIEW

**APRIL  
1941**

If this Nation should be forced into a great emergency, then every man, woman, and child in the United States should be prepared by being in the best physical and nervous condition that the science of nutrition can develop and maintain.

M. L. Wilson

**VOL. 12 • NO. 4**





# AN Editorial

## The Path Just Ahead

CLAUDE R. WICKARD, Secretary of Agriculture

■ Through the years, we have developed a rounded farm program, one that is serving the farmers and the Nation in many ways. The programs for agriculture, like all things fashioned by human beings, are imperfect. They must change as circumstances change.

Prior to 1939, plans for agriculture did not take a second world war into account. This second world war accelerated certain trends in agriculture and instead of the problems growing up gradually, they became full-grown over night. So far as agriculture is concerned, the whole pattern of war No. 2 has been different from war No. 1. After the first year of war No. 1, farm prices began to climb. Many people expected the same price cycle in this war. But, with some few exceptions, prices have not risen much.

Last summer the Nazi victory on the Continent eliminated almost all of Europe as a market for our farm products. Only Britain remains as a buyer; and Britain, for strategic, political, and other reasons, is buying most of her farm products elsewhere.

### *War Does Not Erase Problems*

This situation, so far as Britain is concerned, may change as the war goes on. The English may want some of our food and want it soon. They have lost their sources of food supply on the Continent. If they call on us I think we shall answer the call. There is little likelihood of our producing too much meat, butter, cheese, milk, and other dairy products in the months to come but I see nothing to indicate that we shall get rid of burdensome surpluses of some of our export crops.

In the period just ahead certain paths seem fairly well defined. They include determined efforts to raise the income of farmers, to adjust price-depressing surpluses, and to increase domestic consumption.

A fair income for farmers is just as important today as it ever was. We need to take action to increase farm income. And I feel confident that we can take effective steps to increase farm income without fundamental changes in the present farm programs.

Such steps, however, would require discipline among farmers and a willingness to protect their programs. The theory behind the loans and the other price-bolstering phases of the farm programs has been that producers, in return for this protection, would adjust production to market demand. The existence of ample stocks of foodstuffs and fibers is comforting in times like these, but I am anxious to see to it that we do not continue to produce surpluses for markets that do not exist.

### *More Consumption Needed*

The sole answer to our loss of foreign markets is not to reduce production. Farmers could get parity prices for a greatly decreased production and still be a long way from parity income. Unless the South finds some other way to keep up its income, a reduction of cotton production to meet the loss of foreign markets would lower an income already much too low. Indications are that the South, in the future, will grow more hogs, raise more corn and wheat, and produce more livestock and dairy products. For health's sake, southern farm families need to drink a lot more milk and eat more lean meats and fresh vegetables.

I am proud of the fact that the Department of Agriculture has helped take the lead in the effort to increase domestic consumption. Thousands upon thousands of city families have wanted to buy more milk, more meat, more fruit, more butter, more eggs, more clothing, and more of almost everything that the farmer had to sell. But they did not have enough buying power to purchase the extra food and clothing which they needed and wanted. The immediate increase in the purchases of certain foods, as soon as the defense program began to increase the incomes of workmen, shows what happens when conditions improve and more people have more money to spend.

The food and cotton stamp plans, the school lunch program, and other Federal programs to increase consumption benefit farmers as well as consumers. In reality we cannot benefit one group without benefiting the other.

Some persons fear that the programs to increase domestic consumption may be at the expense of farmers. I do not share this fear.

Increasing domestic consumption is one effective means of raising farm income. The stamp plan has been worked out so as to make certain that farmers will benefit. Orange-colored stamps are sold to make certain that families participating in the program buy as much food as they did before the stamp plan started. Blue stamps, given free, are good only for a restricted list of farm surpluses. Therefore, the plan makes possible a net increase in the amount of food that is bought and eaten.

The farm programs which we have now came about because of the reverberations caused by the first World War. Naturally, all of us look forward to the time when sanity will be restored in the world; when ordinary trade between nations will be resumed and when our farmers can produce abundantly for profitable markets. I do not know when this happy state of affairs will come to pass, but it will not come to pass if the Nazis win. Farmers have a tremendous stake in a British victory, and more and more they are coming to realize that fact.

### *Must Present a United Front*

During the last 8 years, farmers, through the use of government, have succeeded in getting a good many things they have wanted and needed for a long time. During these years, farmer committees have proved their ability as skillful and efficient administrators. As time goes on they should and will have more authority in the communities and counties, but in the last analysis, the responsibility for getting the job done lies with the Federal Government.

The forces that caused the problems of farmers were national in scope. They crossed State lines like the weather. So the programs to meet the problems had to be national in scope.

If ever agriculture needed a united front, it needs one now. As compared to other groups, the situation of farmers today is not too favorable. Thanks to farmers and their national farm program, this Nation has no bottlenecks in its food supply to hamper defense. Farmers are just as keenly aware of their duties as citizens as they are of their rights as citizens. As American citizens, farmers will continue to make the national interest the final guide to their actions.



For April 1941 • Lester A. Schlup, Editor

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EXTENSION SERVICE, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C. • M. L. WILSON, Director • REUBEN BRIGHAM, Assistant Director

## Making Way for an Army Proving Ground

■ For months, agriculture's leaders have been telling the country that farmers were prepared to meet national defense emergencies. Excellent proof that the truth was being told about the Nation's farmers was the way farm groups, functioning democratically through land use planning committees, adjusted themselves to the violent changes caused by the location of new national defense projects.

Take the establishment of the 60,000-acre Madison (Ind.) Army Proving Grounds for an example. Here in southeastern Indiana's Jefferson, Jennings, and Ripley Counties, 600 farm families had to be relocated—on short notice and in record time, too.

It is generally conceded that if it had not been for the work of the county land use planning committees, the tremendous job of land buying, farm liquidation, farm family relocation, and farm family moving could not have been done with such record speed. The land use committees provided the affected farmers, with the necessary democratic machinery that enabled them to work with the Army in completing a valuable segment to the Nation's defense.

Briefly, here are some of the services provided by the land use planning committees, composed of farmers and farm agency representatives, in facilitating the establishment of the Government's defense project:

The agricultural representatives of the National Defense Commission asked H. J. Reed, director of Extension Service, Purdue University, to call a meeting at Madison, Ind., of the executive land use planning committees of the three affected counties and the representatives of the various State agricultural agencies. It was at this meeting, called late in 1940, that the first announcement was made of the large Army land purchase.

The farmer committee members and the Government workers "laid all their information on the table." An announcement letter was developed by the land use committeemen; the AAA provided the addresses of all farm-

Hundreds of thousands of acres of farm land must now go into Army proving grounds, military camps, powder factories, and other defense projects. Where will the farm families move, and how can they solve all the problems involved in moving in just 30 days? Neighbors have found a way to share these burdens of a defense program through the county land use planning committees, as told here by Glenn W. Sample, assistant extension editor in Indiana.

ers affected; and the county agricultural agents mailed copies of the letter which, besides announcing the land buying program, called community meetings within 48 hours after the first notification in the State about the Army project. All of the 600 affected farm families were informed and attended local meetings at which all questions were answered. Other community meetings followed, and all farmers were urged to keep in touch with their local land use planning committees.

All this ground work by the land use committees caused a fair attitude and cooperative understanding among the 600 farm families, the land buying agency, and Army officials.

During the land optioning operations, the land use planning committees constantly helped farmers with their problems as well as advising with the land buying agency which cooperated with them fully. The planning committees also served generally to keep all interested parties well informed regarding policies.

When the farmers began to move, the land use planning committees were busy again. They assembled a list of more than 1,000 farms for sale or rent, the list being compiled through the cooperation of land use planning committees in other counties over the Hoosier State. In addition, the local land use committees made a storage inventory for the use of affected farmers who wished to store their property until they could get permanently located. In order to promote the right relations with local interests such

as bankers, chamber of commerce, and businessmen's associations, the land use committeemen met with these groups several times. Everyone seemed to realize that it was a problem shared by all to see that the affected farmers were satisfactorily resettled.

As the farmers moved they were interviewed, and a special survey blank was filled out to obtain information on credit, storage, and other needs. The survey, which was taken by representatives of the Farm Security Administration, Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, geared the committee work to definite farm and family needs.

The land use committees got the local banks to make loans to farmers holding options, using the options as security. In a few instances, the Farm Security Administration made grants for moving expenses.

The land use planning committees, composed of farmers, were the instruments in which the affected farmers, Army and national defense officials, land buyers, bankers, newspaper people, and the general public placed their confidence. The farmer trusted the land use committees and largely depended on them for technical information and advice. Most of the local newspapers declined to print stories not authorized by the land use committees.

Certainly, here was democracy in action, assisting in the establishment of a project to help defend democracy. These responsible committeemen served without pay from the Government.



# A Job To Do for Democracy

**KATHERINE E. STALEY, Home Demonstration Agent,  
Lauderdale County, Miss.**

Old fashioned tin-pail lunches have emerged into hot meals with milk, fruits, and vegetables in more than 48,000 schools scattered throughout the length and breadth of the land. In December alone, 3,490,000 children sat down at the table at school to eat a hot, nutritious lunch made possible by the distribution of surplus commodities. The menu included such protective foods as 4,983,000 pounds of milk products, 601,000 dozen eggs, and 12,063,000 pounds of fresh fruits. Extension agents have had their part in this achievement, as described here by Miss Staley.

■ A definite need for better school lunches was felt by all of us—the workers in the health department, the teachers, the superintendent of education, superintendent of nurses, and other intelligent citizens of this county who realized that they had a job in their own community to do for a democracy, which can exist only by building strong, healthy boys and girls to participate in its programs and national defense.

Weak, undernourished children do not make a strong nation, and in no better way can this problem be solved than by a check on the school child to see that he gets the nutritious food necessary for strength and health. Thus, the school-lunch program came into existence in Lauderdale County. The first community to organize was Daleville, sponsored by the 4-H Clubs and the home demonstration clubs. The parents were asked to donate supplies for a supplementary hot dish to be served daily to the students. One woman from the home demonstration club was responsible for collecting supplies and for cooking and serving the hot dish each week with the assistance of a 4-H Club girl. The first dishes served were alternately vegetable soup and cocoa. The soup mixture was a vegetable product canned and donated by the home demonstration club. The question of equipment was met by the members of the home demonstration club who collected and purchased cooking utensils, fruit jars, tables and chairs, dishes, and other needed equipment.

Establishing this lunchroom was a result of a school-lunch survey in which the typical lunch was found to be fried or baked sweet-potatoes, biscuits, fried salt pork, fried or hard-cooked eggs, and fried fruit pies.

The need of a demonstration on packing school lunches was obvious; and the situation was again met by the home demonstration club members who gave this demonstration, stressing the need for fruits, vegetables, milk, and eggs in the diet and teaching ways of preparing and packing nutritious foods.

Other schools heard of the splendid work done in Daleville and caught the spirit. Now, about 1,196 children are served a daily school lunch in 16 schools. Help in running the lunchrooms is given by WPA workers, and the Surplus Marketing Administration supplies surplus commodities for free distribution. In December the commodities available in Mississippi included evaporated milk, eggs, corn meal, white flour, rice, apples, grapefruit, prunes, raisins, dried beans, cabbage, pork, and other commodities.

"In all the rural schools in Lauderdale County, every needy and undernourished child can get a hot, well-balanced lunch consisting of a root vegetable, meat or meat substitute, green leafy vegetable, fruit salad, corn bread or hot biscuits, and dessert with a glass of milk in some form," reports Mrs. Albis C. Gray, WPA district supervisor of the school-lunch project.

Gardens are planted and worked by WPA-

paid help in connection with each school. The gardens are sometimes on the school grounds and sometimes not. Through the home demonstration office schools received the Monthly Garden Guide and Year Round Garden Bulletin. From these gardens fresh vegetables are obtained for the school lunches and much canning is done for the school lunchrooms by the home demonstration club women.

I give a demonstration in plain canning, including meats, and also help with the planning of menus. In turn, the lunchrooms are open for our use for demonstrations at any time. The club at Marion gives \$5 each year to the lunchroom in their school.

Everyone is pleased with the result of the program. Dr. N. C. Knight, director of the county public health department, says of the school lunches: "The children get food they would not otherwise have; and this results in a much healthier physical condition. Resistance to disease is markedly increased; and the children are less susceptible to a variety of diseases, including dental troubles. The school-lunch program is filling a very definite place in the protection of the public health of the community."

G. W. Beeman, county superintendent of education, also testifies to the value of the work in saying: "During the period that the lunchrooms have operated, the average daily attendance of pupils has been higher in each school; and failures and nonpromotions have been fewer. I believe that the lunchrooms contributed much to this improvement in the public schools of Lauderdale County."

Surely, a program which improves the health of a child, promotes normal growth, and, in addition, makes a boy or girl more alert in school work can only mean a stronger and more intelligent generation. Personally, I feel that this project has been most beneficial in furthering the extension program.

**Nearly 1,200 children get a hot school lunch in Lauderdale County every school day because the intelligent citizens of the county saw that they had a job to do for democracy and did it.**





# What Makes Community Spirit

A community spirit which gets behind the problems and does something about them is the dream of an extension agent. No one knows better than he the value of stanch support from community leaders in forging such a spirit. Such stanch support fell to the lot of the county agent in Jasper County, Ill., when Father Nell took up his small parish in the county. Just what happened is here recorded by Sam D. Coleman, assistant extension editor, Illinois.

■ Without much training in meeting farm problems, Father Nell of Island Grove community (Illinois), realized when he first entered the small community of 50 or more families that the little church would die unless social and economic life could be revived. He set out at once to contact the county extension service and to bring its benefits to his people through community meetings where farmers and their families could play a little, sing a little, and at the same meeting discuss their problems.

When Father Nell took over the job as priest in this southern Illinois hilly area in Jasper County more than 21 years ago, these people were seriously lacking something. Their spirits, as well as the fertility of their soil, needed a boost. Soul, as well as soil, erosion was taking place. They obtained a mere living from their land. Many of their farms were deserted. Impassable roads often prevented them from delivering their meager supplies of farm products to market and kept normal social contacts at a minimum.

Now, citizens of the community deliver \$5,000 worth of cream every month over improved roads to pick-up stations along a regular milk-truck route. They have limed most of their land so that it can grow soil-building legumes and pasture grasses for their livestock, and many of them go to shows at least once a week. Throughout the year the community has more than its share of parties, picnics, plays, and prosperity.

Father Nell contacted the county agent and obtained all the information he could about improving farming conditions. He obtained bulletins and circulars from the University of Illinois College of Agriculture on all phases of better farming and homemaking. He studied soil erosion and soil improvement, better seeding and cultivating methods, insect and disease control, and livestock improvement.

Foreseeing the danger of increasing erosion from continued cultivation of the land, Father Nell preached more pastures and close-growing crops to hold the soil, and more livestock and dairy cattle to utilize these crops. Erosion began to decrease. Spreading of limestone increased. Cash grain crops that were

grown in rotation with the close-growing crops began to rise in yields.

The community educational meetings were at the same time social and spiritual in nature. Consequently, the number of social events increased from year to year; and church attendance mounted, too. Now, about 150 persons in 40 families representing many nationalities living within a radius of 8 miles attend services at the little church.

Changing from grain to livestock farming presented the biggest problem. Father Nell even chartered a special train to Green County, Wis., to study methods of these successful farmers. Bankers who favored dairying for the Island Grove community told farmers how money could be obtained to purchase the prosperity-bringing cow. The county agent discussed good dairy-management practices. Milk companies estimated what they would pay for their milk. Finally, a home-talent play on Why the County Needs Cows, presented by the young people, pushed the program over the last barriers for Father Nell.

He used the same tactics in promoting good roads and the other improvements. Many people took part in the plays. His reasoning was that "if you get the people out to a meeting and show them a good time, then you can tell them anything. In the plays, the people actually tell themselves what they should do."

He has kept up his interest in the welfare of these farm families by making available to them extension work through 4-H, poultry, livestock, and other clubs, with the assistance of the county agent. He also has assisted in assembling material for film strips and in obtaining film strips for use in local meetings.

As a result of men's study groups, farmers in the community purchased collectively enough limestone at one time that 2 special trains of 52 cars each were required to haul it in. The railroad officials cooperated to the extent of stopping these trains wherever farmers wished to unload lime for their farms.

In the face of opposition to organizing a farm bureau in such a poor agricultural county, Father Nell nevertheless was influ-

ential in setting up the Jasper County organization. He concentrated his attack on the opposition through community meetings and meetings of young people.

In a recent milk strike against the dairy company in St. Louis which first promised to buy milk from Island Grove farmers, Father Nell himself fought in his own way for the cause of the dairy farmers in his community.

Father Nell has continually been an ardent supporter and advocate of the Extension Service throughout the time he has helped the community, urging community meetings to carry on educational work. He has actively promoted 4-H Club work and was one of the pioneer leaders in rural-youth work.

## To Make America Strong

With the slogan, Help to Make America Strong, the Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service has launched a State-wide program to build and maintain maximum health of the people through the production and use of health-giving, strength-building foods.

"The first line of health and national defense is abundant supplies of the right kind of foods—vegetables, fruits, dairy products, poultry products, grains, and meats," said C. E. Brehm, extension director, in announcing the program which will be one of the major activities of county farm and home agents this year.

Agents are being supplied with bulletins, posters, charts, and other literature on food values for use in demonstrations and meetings which will be held in all communities of the State.

The program will be carried forward by the agents and other extension workers in conjunction with the State home food supply program sponsored by the Governor and the State department of agriculture, and in cooperation with the recently formed State nutrition committee headed by Jessie Harris of the University of Tennessee School of Home Economics. This committee includes representatives of all the State-wide agencies engaged in nutrition work and was formed in response to a call from the National Defense Advisory Commission.

More than 60,000 rural families enrolled in the 1940 home food supply program, and approximately 20,000 were awarded handsome certificates of recognition for producing 75 percent or more of their food needs.

The program will be continued in 1941 along the same line as in 1940. Enrollment cards are now being distributed by agents throughout the State, and it is expected that the enrollment will reach more than 100,000 families this year.



# On the Way to a More Abundant Life

LAURA LANE, Acting Editor, Texas Extension Service

Even on a bright November day there was nothing especially cheerful in the landscape of the Flag community in Castro County, Tex., except perhaps the bright-orange road grader parked near the home of a county commissioner. After a 7-year drought, which reminded me of the Biblical account of the "7 lean years," I could hardly expect to find anything green or cheerful in the Flag community landscape; but inside the homes of its people and in their faces I saw plenty to warm the heart.

The Flag community is not an old one—scarcely more than 16 years. People came to the community from Oklahoma and east Texas—most of them young couples with one or two babies—and bought tracts of land, usually quarter sections. In this area, approximately 8 miles square, there were once close to 100 families. Now there are only about 40. Drought, high land values, and poor management have sent many families back to the places from which they came, but those who remain, although most of them are tenants, are going to "stick it out," one of the homemakers assured me.

I want to find out first of all what has held the community together, and then, what members of the community have done together.

It did not take me long to find out that the hub of Flag is the community church, a

small frame building which will hold 200 or more people. There several denominations worship together or in groups. There the Flag Community Agricultural Association holds its meetings in seasons when work is not so pressing. There the community gathered to make mattresses under the 1940 cotton-mattress demonstration.

The church was built when the community was first settled. The land was donated by an Amarillo woman owning land there, and from the beginning various members "chipped in." Until 1930 the building also served as a school, but now the community's younger ones have a building of their own, and the older ones go in to Dimmitt, the county seat, on a school bus.

Things rocked along, and the church began to get in a pretty bad state of repair. It was set away back from the road, and the churchgoers endangered their Sunday clothes when they opened a gap in the pasture so that the cars could drive through. The building needed paint, and the roof leaked. Inside appearances were as bad or worse, until just about a year ago.

About that time, women in the Flag Home Demonstration Club decided that something had better be done about the church; and, drought or no drought, they sold the community on the idea. Thirty-four of the forty women in the community are members

of the club. They began raising money by sponsoring a Thanksgiving supper at the school. Later, they entertained more than 200 people at a candidates' rally, and members gave the audience its money's worth by impersonating the candidates—not listening to them. A few months later they gave a minstrel show before a packed house. The Flag girls' 4-H club helped with this.

A professional mover was hired for \$100 and with the help of the men members the church was given a new site 150 yards away on the front of the tract facing the road. Now the fence is only on three sides of the church (the men bought the fencing and posts), and the troublesome wire gap is gone for all time.

New paper was selected by the president of the home demonstration club, and a paper-hanger papered the church interior for \$13. Once this was done, the women put on their husbands' overalls and painted the woodwork and the floor. Then they varnished the benches, the pulpit, and the piano. The home demonstration club had recently bought an oil-burning stove, but the piano, pews, and curtains had been purchased several years earlier by the union ladies' aid and Sunday school before the women were organized as a home demonstration club in 1930.

When time came for the men to paint the outside of the church and patch up the roof, the women and children came along and prepared lunch for the whole crowd. Other improvements such as underpinning the church and building steps have been under way. Some of the women already have dreams of adding on a wing for Sunday school rooms and a kitchen.

There is not a person in the Flag community who does not share in the benefits of this church.

First, there are the benefits of those who come to worship. Baptist ministers preach two Sundays in the month, and the Nazarenes and Methodists each have a Sunday. On fifth Sundays a Christian preacher comes out. But denominational distinctions are not important there. Every year there's a community Christmas tree and a program at the church, and the stouter men take their turn at being Santa Claus.

Then, the members of the Flag Community Agricultural Association hold their meetings at the church. At meetings of the association a hundred subjects have been discussed—freezer lockers, the mattress program, killing and curing pork, poultry problems, AAA regulations, the formation of a soil-conservation district, wind-erosion control, pruning trees, varieties of vegetables

From the oldest to the youngest they turn out with enthusiasm when a meeting is called in Flag community.





sued to Castro County conditions, sources of farm credit, and the extension cotton-improvement program. One of the next things on the calendar is the possibility of forming an REA cooperative. Former County Agent J. T. Stovall, who recently resigned, and County Home Demonstration Agent Mary Catherine Couch have attended practically all of these meetings and have presented any educational information requested of them.

There is always some recreation at the meetings, too. Members participate freely in folk games but frown on dominoes or cards in the church.

The younger generation make use of the church, too, for some of their 4-H Club functions. Most of the Flagg community boys and girls belong to 4-H Clubs in Dimmitt.

In the fall of 1938, cotton improvement was discussed at several meetings of the Flagg Community Agricultural Association, held at the church and interest became so keen that a committee from the community was appointed to investigate the most practical variety for the community. This committee, accompanied by Mr. Stovall, visited the experiment substation at Lubbock and cotton breeders at Lockney and Floydada. From findings of these visits they decided that the most practical variety was Paymaster.

When the committee's report was made at a meeting of the association in February 1939, many cotton growers from other communities were present and asked that they be given opportunity to buy improved seed along with Flagg farmers. As a result, a county-wide meeting of cotton farmers was held at the Flagg community center. Classing and marketing services of the United States Department of Agriculture, provided under the Smith-

Doxey Act, were explained; and Castro County that day resolved to go the one-variety route.

A member of the county agricultural conservation committee weighed out all the cotton for the mattresses made by the women in the cotton-mattress demonstration. "All 11 mattresses turned out well," said the home demonstration club member in charge of the work, "even though most of the women had never seen a mattress made before." This work, too, was a community enterprise with the church as the work center. The men helped with the tables and transported the cotton from Dimmitt. The participating families paid 30 cents to cover cost of needles and thread, and the remaining needles will be "issued out of the county home demonstration agent's office like pressure cookers," said Miss Couch, who supervised the work. She says that several people in the community will probably make mattresses soon from their own cotton.

Success has also been attained in a county-wide wheat-improvement program which has been sponsored by the county land use planning committee. Last year 2 Flagg community farmers participated in a cooperative seed-buying scheme with 17 other farmers of the county, saving money on both the price and the hauling. They bought certified Turkey Red. During the past 3 years, E. A. Miller, extension agronomist, and F. E. Lichte, extension cotton gin specialist, have been in Castro County on several occasions in the interest of improved seed. Now the growers are planning to organize a wheat-improvement association.

No doubt the 1940 census will reveal their cash income for the year considerably below the average for the entire State; nevertheless, Flagg folks are rich. Any inventory of their assets must begin with courage.

1 inch of which, scientists tell us, Mother Nature requires 400 years to produce; that loss of all topsoil produces waste land or deserts; that the surest crop and best insurance against dust storms and loss of topsoil is the crop planted by Mother Nature—grass.

Therefore, it follows as a self-evident fact that the native grass cover must be maintained on an extremely high percentage of the land in Kiowa County and similar areas if people are to continue to make a livelihood here in future generations.

Results to date as to size of units, control of wind erosion, feed reserves, and conservation in general have been most gratifying.

The average size of farming unit, although considerably less than the 2,560 acres recommended, is 1,100 acres, as compared with an average of less than 700 acres 3 years ago.

A fair estimate of the number of acres of land in blowing condition this year is between 8,000 and 10,000 acres, compared with 25,000 acres 3 years ago.

Instead of 60,000 acres of corn and 10,000 acres of wheat, as was the acreage of these two crops a decade ago, the shift to drought-resisting grain and forage sorghums has been such that there are now between 10,000 and 12,000 acres of corn and 3,000 acres of wheat.

The county supervisor of the Farm Security Administration has used the farming units mentioned above as a goal in rehabilitating his clients. The Emergency Feed and Seed Loan representative informed me recently that 97 percent of the feed and seed loans made in Kiowa County last year had been repaid.

## Cooperative Marketing

In 1940, county agents assisted South Carolina farmers in marketing cooperatively products with a total value of \$1,903,843.36, according to summaries from county reports for the year.

In addition to cooperative selling, farmers were assisted in cooperative purchasing of supplies and materials valued at \$330,459.93.

"This total value of more than 2¼ million dollars' worth of all products sold and purchased is big business for any group," says D. W. Watkins, director of the Extension Service, "and for South Carolina farmers it meant greater profits from their farm products and effective savings on materials which had to be bought."

Values of the various items sold cooperatively show an interesting trend toward livestock and specialty fruits, for the six largest items ranked by value were hogs, beef cattle, poultry, peaches, dairy products, and sweet potatoes.

Two other interesting items sold cooperatively by the farmers were lespedeza and other seed, 363,425 pounds, \$31,553.98; and small grain, 5,870 bushels, \$30,848.09. Miscellaneous products marketed cooperatively were valued at \$137,448.03.

## A Ranch To Support the Family

**JOHN WEAVER, County Agent, Kiowa County, Colo.**

■ After due consideration and discussion, 15 farmers of Kiowa County, Colo., agreed 3 years ago that for most of the area of the county a ranching unit necessary to support an average farm family should be 4 sections or 2,560 acres of land (either owned or leased for a long time) with not more than 10 percent in cultivation. Of the cultivated land, 75 percent should be devoted to feed crops such as grain and forage sorghums which are adapted to this area. Each ranch should have 50 range cows 2 years old or over, or their equivalent in sheep; 6 to 10 milk cows; 2 sows; 100 hens; and 8 work horses or a small tractor.

Those 15 farmers did not reach into thin air and pull out the above figures. They had

all lived in the county 10 years or more; a few had been residents 25 or 30 years. They knew from experience that cash-crop farming was not a safe or sound practice in most parts of the county. They knew that over a period of years it takes 30 to 40 acres of grazing land for 1 animal unit. They knew that supplemental feed for livestock is required during winter and spring months and that 1 year with another 1½ to 2 acres of feed crops are required to supply the needs of one animal unit. Finally, they knew that the wind blows in Kiowa County; that droughts occur occasionally; that drought causes crop failures; that crop failures result in bare fields; that bare fields plus wind equal dust storms; that dust storms, besides being very unpleasant, cause loss of topsoil,



# A Look at Both Sides of a Barbed Wire Fence

PAUL L. MALONEY, District Extension Agent, Nevada

■ Could a barbed wire fence be the determining factor between a successful and an unsuccessful livestock operation? If not, what is the solution to our complex farm and ranch problem?

It would not be difficult for a practical agricultural analyst to go on any farm or ranch with the unrestrained privilege of thoroughly and seriously studying the operator and his farm or ranch operations and determine to a great extent just what the problem was on that individual place.

It is evident, then, that instead of being bewildered and overwhelmed by the supposed complexity of the problem, the easiest and simplest way to discover the solution to our farm and ranch problem is to consider each farm or ranch as an individual unit. A sound analysis of the unit will provide the basis for an effective solution of the problem and will show how the unit can be operated more efficiently.

## *Analysis Requires an Open Mind*

This analysis and all subsequent procedure must, in each individual instance, be qualified by one provision if the efforts expended upon any ranch or farm are to result in the desired and expected improvements. The provision is that the operator of the ranch or farm analyzed must be open-minded and progressive enough to adjust his management practices to conform to the procedure which the analysis has revealed must be followed if the existing conditions are to be improved.

In an analysis recently made of two cattle ranches which are separated only by a barbed wire fence, the writer discovered that rancher A gets 85 calves each year from each 100 breeding cows in his herd, an 85 percent calf crop, while rancher B gets only 65 calves each year from each 100 breeding cows in his herd.

In 1939, the analysis revealed, rancher A received \$7.75 per 100 pounds for his feeder steers when sold while rancher B had to take a big cut-back to obtain \$6.50 per 100 pounds for his steers. Again, in 1940, rancher A sold his steers for \$8.50 per 100 pounds and rancher B received only \$8 per 100 pounds for his animals.

Both lots of steers, in the instances mentioned, were practically of the same age when sold. The yearling steers sold by rancher A weighed 700 pounds each and those sold by rancher B weighed 634 pounds each.

Thus we have here two adjoining ranches, separated only by the barbed wire fence and both having practically the same range and feed conditions, yet one operator, rancher A, is getting 20 more calves each year from

each 100 breeding cows in his herd—a 20 percent greater calf crop—than is his neighbor; is receiving from \$0.50 to \$1.25 more per 100 pounds for his feeder steers—a premium of 6 to 20 percent—than did rancher B; and his steers when sold weighed 66 pounds more—10 percent more—at the same age than did those of rancher B.

The reasons for the existing conditions on the two ranches, profitable in one instance and unsatisfactory in the other, are definite and determinable reasons. They can be discovered through thorough analysis.

There are several reasons why rancher A gets a greater calf crop than does rancher B. Some of those reasons are: Rancher A buys the best bulls that he can find, while rancher B is satisfied with any kind of a bull that will freshen his cows.

Rancher A keeps the proper number of vigorous bulls in his herd, but rancher B provides only half enough bulls for the number of cows ranged.

Rancher A withholds his bulls from the herd at certain seasons so that no calves are dropped during January, February, or March to be exposed to the possibility of death by freezing. Rancher B permits his bulls to range with the herd at all times and some calves are dropped and die from cold during winter months.

## *Analysis Needs Reliable Data*

Instead of allowing his heifers to calve as yearlings, rancher A makes a sincere effort to prevent this until the animals have become 2-year olds. He regulates his selling practices so that his good aged cows will be kept in the herd for breeding. Rancher B does not follow these practices.

Rancher A culls his heifers, cows, and bulls continuously, taking out those which do not meet his standard of perfection and selling them off, including those heifers or cows which do not calve regularly. Rancher B has no standard of perfection for his beef animals and pays no attention to culling his herd. Keeping his bulls in the herd for so many years that the stock are badly inbred accounts, to a great extent, for the lack in weight and quality of the stock.

The increased weight and quality of the feeder steers grown by rancher A, and the increased price per pound which he received for the animals when sold was due largely to the type of bulls which are purchased, to the methods of culling this herd, and to the factor of winter management of the herd.

The question naturally arises: "Knowing that his neighbor, rancher A, is getting a 20 percent greater calf crop each year than he is,

and receives from \$0.50 to \$1.25 more per 100 pounds for his feeder steers when sold, why does not rancher B observe and study the methods of operation used by rancher A and himself adopt those methods?"

One reason for this situation is that it is almost impossible for any rancher or farmer to analyze accurately his own outfit for the reason that he is so close to his own business that, as the old saying goes, "he can't see the woods for the trees"—cannot see the faults or mistakes in his own farm or ranch practices because he is too occupied with a multitude of daily duties to take time to stand off and view with proper perspective his operations.

The duties of an agricultural analyst would be to analyze thoroughly each selected farm or ranch unit and to determine whether or not the operator was getting the fullest possible income from that unit.

If such analysis revealed that the unit being studied was yielding considerably less than its maximum possible revenue, then it would be the task of the analyst to provide the operator with definite, detailed, practical working methods of operation which would enable the operator to bring his individual unit up to its maximum efficiency. Such working plans should make the operator more capable of successfully meeting sharp competition and rising costs of operation, including taxes.

Because of the tendency of some farmers and ranchers to "color the picture"—make the colors brighter than they really are—in order to excel his neighbor, I have learned by experience that it is not always easy to obtain from the operator of the farm or ranch being studied the reliable data which the analyst must have in order to arrive at a true picture of actual conditions.

In the instances recorded herein, I was able to obtain an accurate, undistorted picture of conditions existing at ranches A and B because of previous contact and acquaintanceship with the operators of the two properties.

While the analysis of only cattle ranches is reported here, the same procedure of analysis can be adapted for use in studying any other class of farming or livestock operations.

Conditions existing in any selected individual farm or ranch unit can by sound and thorough analysis be reduced to those exact factors which are involved in the situation, and those factors can, singly, be isolated, identified and studied.

From the known, identified factors thus revealed by the analysis must be constructed definite, detailed, practical working plans which will enable the less successful operator whose unit is being analyzed to extract the fullest possible income from his operations which that unit can produce.



# The Wheat and Corn Referendum

REUBEN BRIGHAM, Assistant Director of Extension Work

■ The fact that American farmers very probably will be asked to vote this year on the application of both wheat and corn marketing quotas reflects the tremendous change that has taken place in the Nation's agricultural needs. Not many years ago, a chief concern of farmers was efficient and economical production of crops. Today, having grown the crops, they are concerned as much or even more with the problem of finding a market for them.

Our extension responsibility is as vital today as it was a quarter century ago when helping farmers to increase production was our major obligation. Although today's work has become broader, our basic responsibility remains the same. It is the educational job of supplying farmers with authentic information on conditions which affect them, so that they can make their decisions intelligently and democratically on a preferred course of action.

## *A Fair Income Is Essential*

Farmers today have better farm factories than at any time in our agricultural history. We have helped them to obtain new and improved varieties of wheat and corn. We have encouraged the use of modern farming methods and equipment. We have shown them better methods of tillage. Our newest obligation is to help them obtain a fair income from such commodities, else there can be little justification for the technological advancements which have made possible today's bountiful production.

For a long time we have been talking about the "American way of life" and "democracy in agriculture." I think that certain features of our national farm program (and certainly marketing quotas are among them) excellently represent both of these things. Before marketing quotas first went into effect on flue-cured tobacco in 1938, for example, they were approved by 86 percent of the growers who voted in a referendum. Before quotas went into effect on cotton the same year, they were approved by 92 percent of the cotton growers voting. Before quotas can go into effect on either wheat or corn in 1941, they must also be approved by two-thirds of the growers who go to the referendum polls.

It is part of our job to make sure that when wheat growers go to their community polls on May 31 to vote in the marketing quota referendum they will be informed on the facts of the wheat situation. We have a similar responsibility toward corn growers, pending the time when they too may vote on a quota.

The United States today has near-record supplies of both wheat and corn. Our wheat

surplus is due largely to loss of foreign markets, a result of the military and economic embargoes which have arisen. Our large supply of corn is due not only to loss of export markets for livestock products but also to technological advancements which have made larger yields inevitable over the entire Corn Belt.

We are not alone in our problem. Canada, for example, has enough wheat on hand to supply the entire world trade for a year. Much of her wheat is piled on the ground or held in crude bins because of lack of storage space. Argentina has so much unsold corn on hand that the Government is finding it necessary to buy it from farmers, reselling the corn to railways and factories for use as fuel.

An essential difference between our situation and that of Canada and Argentina is that we have made advance preparation to meet such difficulties. We have allotments to adjust our total acreages. We have a crop loan program to support the price and enable farmers to store their grain for future use. We have the marketing quota provisions to make orderly marketing possible and also to make it desirable for farmers to plant within their acreage allotments.

Marketing quotas were established by the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938. This act provides that whenever the supply of a basic commodity such as wheat or corn reaches a specified above-normal point, the Secretary of Agriculture must declare marketing quotas in effect. Before the quotas can become operative, however, two-thirds of the farmers voting must approve them in a referendum.

## *Effect of the Quota*

If farmers vote to accept marketing quotas, those who have seeded or planted within their acreage allotments will not be affected, for they will be able to market or feed their entire production of the commodities affected. On the other hand, those who have exceeded their acreage allotment will be required to pay a penalty on all wheat or corn they sell or feed in excess of their farm marketing quotas. It will be seen that the net effect of the quota system is to obtain greater compliance with acreage allotments.

If marketing quotas are declared but not approved in a referendum, there can be no government loans on the affected commodity during the following marketing year. It is obvious that loss of either wheat or corn loans conceivably could work great hardship on farmers during the present period of unsettled markets.

I have attempted to outline briefly this most

current problem facing our farmers—the problem of how to vote if or when marketing quotas are declared on either wheat or corn. I am confident that extension workers today are fully cognizant of the situation and are helping farmers to gain in understanding. If or when American farmers go to the polls to express an opinion on marketing quotas for either commodity, I feel certain that theirs will be a thoughtful, well-considered vote.

## To Promote Unified Action

An organization designed to promote unified action among the various agricultural agencies functioning in Louisiana has been effected in most of the parishes of the State. The parish groups are made up of representatives of such agricultural agencies as are operating in each area. The purpose of the movement, as stated by H. C. Sanders, acting director of the Louisiana Extension Service, is to promote a spirit of cooperation and mutual helpfulness among the personnel of all agricultural agencies in the State, and to encourage joint action on the part of all personnel on agricultural problems.

A 15-point program has been adopted by the general State committee and will be followed by the parish groups. These points suggested by J. G. Lee, Jr., dean of the College of Agriculture, embrace three fields of service: Education, field contacts and advice to farmers each agency is serving, and making equipment and other facilities available to farmers. They are: (1) Soil conservation in all its phases, stressing cooperation with soil conservation districts in securing maximum farm planning and application of conservation measures; (2) informing farmers of types of service offered by the various agencies; (3) keeping farmers informed regarding the agricultural situation and outlook; (4) grading and marketing of farm products; (5) farmer storage facilities; (6) improvement of the cultural practices of farm cash crops; (7) development of coordinated drainage system; (8) development of more economic size of farm units; (9) problems of landlord-tenant relations and tenure system; (10) forestry development and maintenance; (11) rural housing problems; (12) wildlife conservation; (13) rural health and sanitation; (14) community and cooperative services; (15) beautification of homes.

County and home demonstration agents of the Agricultural Extension Service are actively engaged in furthering the movement in each parish.



# New Cotton Program Gives Incentive for Improving Living Conditions

■ Down in Dixie, where cotton, the chief fiber of the United States, grows, extension agents are pushing a better food campaign along with the supplementary cotton program.

This program for further voluntary reduction of cotton acreage in 1941 and for increased consumption of cotton goods has been offered by the Department of Agriculture to cotton farmers. It is designed to reduce cotton acreage, to encourage improved living standards through more gardens and food production and storage for home consumption, and at the same time to increase consumption of cotton goods among cotton farmers and to compensate them for additional acreage reduction.

For many years extension workers have emphasized a live-at-home program and the need for diversified farming in the South. This plan included the growing of food and feed crops and the raising of livestock. The supplementary program offers farmers more encouragement and help in the actual production and storage of their yearly food supply for the farm family, as well as providing for further acreage reduction and increased consumption of cotton.

## *Stamps Exchanged for Merchandise*

Cotton farmers who voluntarily reduce their cotton acreage in 1941 will receive their share of 25 million dollars in Federal cotton stamps. These stamps are exchangeable in retail stores for any merchandise made entirely of cotton grown and manufactured in the United States.

Any owner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper on a farm which qualifies for a cotton order stamp payment, may also earn a cash payment of \$3 by carrying out a designated practice to improve and increase food production and storage for home use.

During recent years the problems of cotton farmers have become acute. Cotton, more than any other American crop, is dependent upon foreign buyers for its markets. War abroad has sharply curtailed our exports of American cotton. As a result, the large carry-over of 10½ million bales of cotton in this country last August will be substantially increased by the end of this season.

In spite of the fact that cotton farmers have given full support to the AAA farm program this huge supply has accumulated. Under the proposed program and a special provision which removes the requirement that growers must plant their minimum allotment, it is estimated that cotton production

may be voluntarily reduced by about 1 million bales this year.

The supplementary program, which applies to the 1941 cotton crop, is carried on cooperatively by the Surplus Marketing Administration, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, and the Extension Service. The AAA will administer the program in the States and counties, and the SMA will provide and redeem up to 25 million dollars worth of cotton stamps which farmers will receive for their voluntary reduction. The Extension Service will explain this program to farmers and merchants and use it as an additional incentive to push home food production and storage for better living.

Farmers will receive stamps for planting less than their 1941 allotments or their 1940 measured acreage, whichever is lower, at the rate of 10 cents a pound on the normal yield of the underplanted acreage, up to \$25 per family in the case of sharecroppers, tenants, and owner-operators interested in only one farm. Operators of more than one farm or landlords with more than one tenant may qualify for up to \$50 worth of the stamps, based on their share of the crop.

The 25 million dollars in cotton stamps and the 3-million-dollar garden payments will give farm people added opportunity to put into effect the home food production and better living practices that the Extension Service has been recommending for years.

When discussing the program recently, Secretary Wickard said, "This program offers an additional opportunity to improve the living standards of cotton farmers, to reduce further the acreage of cotton this year, and to provide more cotton goods for the people who produce cotton.

"It is an ironical fact that many cotton producers have not in the past been able to buy needed cotton products. Equally important is the opportunity this program offers to offset nutritional diseases and poor health conditions among low-income farmers through encouraging farmers to produce for home consumption more of the vegetables, fruits, dairy products, and meat of which there is now a deficiency in many cotton areas."

Any farmer, whether he receives cotton stamps or not, will be permitted to reduce plantings by any amount in 1941 and still receive full conservation and parity payments. Underplantings will not affect his cotton allotment in 1942 and subsequent years, except where no cotton was planted in 1939 and 1940. In addition to the reduction for which farmers may receive stamps, it is expected that as much additional acreage may also be taken out

of production because of this provision. The supplemental plan gives farmers an opportunity to help improve the whole cotton situation, but it does not in itself reduce the cotton acreage allotment in subsequent years. It is also an aid to soil conservation.

Milo Perkins, Administrator of the Surplus Marketing Administration, listed the following additional advantages: "Purchases made with the cotton stamps will not only provide additional markets for surplus cotton, but also will contribute materially to reemployment of labor in cotton mills, garment factories, wholesale and retail stores, and transportation systems throughout the country. Something like 15 cents of the cotton stamp dollar spent at retail goes back to the cotton farmer directly. Most of the remaining 85 cents goes to employ labor, directly and indirectly. This has always been inherent in the process of distributing cotton goods. This reemployment aspect of the cotton stamp use is one of its major advantages. It means that not only farmers, but also labor, business and consumers profit from the operation of the program."

## *Aid Given to Meet Needs*

The physical well-being of all people is of first importance in the national defense. The best estimates indicate that 45 million people are living on a diet dangerously below the safety line and are thus suffering from deficiency diseases brought about by lack of protective foods.

Because of these facts, the 3 million dollars made available to give additional aid in meeting the food and feed needs among cotton producers, has a definite place in the defense program.

The general basis for the garden payments was worked out in cooperation with Extension workers from 11 Southern States in a conference at Atlanta. They are based on the food and feed requirements of southern farm families. The exact practices farmers will have to adopt to qualify for the payment will be determined by the State AAA committee and approved in Washington.

## **Exhibit Train**

A special livestock, forage crops, and forestry exhibit train was displayed to 63,268 Florida people in 53 towns during its 4-week run. Sponsored by the college and the State department of agriculture, it carried exhibits portraying modern methods with beef cattle, dairy cattle, hogs, feed crops, and forestry.





A place for baby to take her nap and play equipment for the older children are features of the nursery school which trains the youngest while mother attends the extension meeting.

## Aid for the Youngest

■ Mothers of Shelby County, Ill., formerly brought their children to extension meetings. Now the children bring mother. It is all because the youngsters have such a good time at the nursery school held at the same time in another room so the mothers can enjoy their meeting without distractions. Started a year and a half ago, the Ridge Home Bureau Nursery Class has been so successful that the youngsters talk about it for days afterward and prompt mother to remember the next meeting.

The play program of these preschool boys and girls is planned and supervised by volunteer members, some of them former school teachers. The activities for each month are planned according to the season of the year. During spring, for instance, the children study birds, flowers, and gardens. Two mothers supervise each nursery school. All breakable furnishings are removed from the room which has been furnished by the hostess, and the children sit in a circle on the floor. They color pictures of birds, cut flowers from seed catalogs, play games, and sing songs. Usually there is a story-telling hour, and sometimes the children are taught bits of poetry.

Special funds raised by the home bureau unit paid for the low rack with hangers on which each child hangs his wraps, for play materials which include a supply of paper, crayons, paste, scissors, construction paper, and for a few toys such as balls and jump

ropes. Materials used in the class are transported and cared for by women in charge for the day.

Refreshments such as fruit, cookies, ice cream, and milk, served in bright containers, are furnished by the hostess. Lessons in serving and table manners often are part of the program. Helpful hints in hygiene and health as well as in social behavior are picked up along with the fun.

"The most significant fact about the whole undertaking," said the Shelby County home agent, "is that the women realized the need for a nursery school group and then did something about it." Women who stay away from their home bureau meeting to supervise the children visit some other unit to make up the lesson they miss.

Any unit can accomplish the same results whether the nursery play group is planned on a small or large scale. Mothers can take turns in supervising the playtime, or some cooperative method might be worked out with 4-H Club girls. In a rural community where kindergarten facilities are not available, these nursery classes form a definite part of preschool training.

The local women and their agent are proud of their nursery school and they point with pride to feature articles which have appeared in the State extension paper, *The New Messenger*, the Illinois Agricultural Association Record, and the local county paper.

## Greater Use of Cotton for Better Living

An exhibit of some of the promising new markets for cotton and cotton products now being developed through departmental programs and a showing of cotton mattresses made by participants under the cotton mattress program, is occupying the patio of the Department of Agriculture during the week of April 7.

A demountable prefabricated cotton house is being featured at the exhibit. The construction includes cotton materials for walls and floors, insulation, and for many other materials used in building. As much of the furnishings as possible are made of cotton materials.

If appropriate arrangements can be made it is probable that the house will be exhibited on other sites in Washington as well as in cities in the South.

In addition to the "cotton" house there are a number of individual exhibits showing the various new uses of cotton and cotton products. Among these are the use of cotton as a reinforcing membrane in the lining of irrigation ditches and canals to prevent water losses, cotton mats for use in curing concrete, cotton covering for use over tobacco seedbeds in treatments to prevent tobacco blue mold, fabric for use in the prevention of insect infestation in dried and drying fruits, for use in shading tree seedlings during periods of tender growth, and as coverings for beehives.

## Gift of Extension

Nearly 200 volumes dealing with the life and character of Abraham Lincoln were presented to the State College of Washington library by Extension Service workers of the State of Washington at their banquet during the annual conference held from January 6 to 10.

Presentation was made by Vey J. Valentine, Skagit County agent, in behalf of the State County Agents' Association, the State Home Demonstration Agents' Association, and Epsilon Sigma Phi. The Lincoln collection was purchased through donations of funds from Extension Service workers throughout the State. Director F. E. Balmer handled the purchasing of the collection with the advice of library officials of the college.

In presenting the collection to the college library, Mr. Valentine pointed out that it was Lincoln who signed the Morrill Act establishing the land-grant colleges, and that such institutions were naturally interested in a study of the Civil War President. Valentine also urged a study of Lincoln's ideals at the present time of national emergency.

The collection was accepted for the college by President E. O. Holland who expressed appreciation for the action taken by the extension workers.



# Town Officers "Go to Town"

W. A. DODGE, Extension Land Use Planning Specialist, Vermont

■ In the early thirties, the Vermont State Chamber of Commerce prepared some material on State finances and stirred up considerable agitation for better State reports. This movement was constantly hampered by the cry, "The towns spend most of the money in this State. Why not get their reports so people can understand them?" As a result, in 1932, the chamber of commerce published two leaflets on town reports, or township reports, as they would be called in some other parts of the country.

A few wide-awake town officers in Franklin County went to their county agricultural agent, R. C. McWilliams, and asked if they could get something started in that county toward the improvement of town reports. The result was a meeting of all town officers in the county, sponsored jointly by the county farm bureau and the St. Albans Chamber of Commerce. There was so much interest in the discussion about improving town reports that these Franklin County town officers had a second meeting soon afterward.

With the help and encouragement of county agricultural agents and local chambers of commerce, six county meetings of town officers were held in January 1933 for the purpose of discussing town reports.

At first, many people were inclined to comment that the secretary of the State chamber of commerce, James P. Taylor, well known in Vermont as an organizer and promoter, was overconcerned about the need for improving town reports. Many people felt that for 50 years lists of town officers' orders had been serving as town reports and that such reports were adequate, even in view of the fact that nobody read them.

## *Criticism Was Popular*

In the whole field of town government, a rather disturbing situation was apparent. In the first place, one needed but mention town government in many rural communities, to say nothing about urban communities, to start a fire of criticism and abuse. I personally heard town officers called all manner of names, except ladies and gentlemen. I made a point of calling on the town officers whom I had heard called crooked, dishonest, and of very low caliber. On making the acquaintance of these people, however, I found that they were in reality honest, hard-working, interested citizens. They were fighting along, doing the best job of running their town government that they knew how to do, receiving very poor, if any, pay for their services but receiving a great deal of criticism.

It was not difficult to see that the town report gave the town officers an annual oppor-

tunity to show the people not only the distribution of the public funds but what the distribution of these public funds had accomplished and why the officers distributed them as they did. It was little wonder that few people read the town reports; they were dull and uninteresting. It was easy to see that if the general public were to understand their town government, the reports would have to be at least understandable, to say nothing about attractive.

Previous to 1935, the State required that the details of all town orders be published in the town reports. The 1935 legislature changed this so that towns no longer need to publish all these details, which usually are lengthy and confusing. Many of the towns had already ceased to follow this antique law. In 1937, the legislature enabled any town needing help with its reports to obtain the services of an accountant from the State auditor's office.

Based upon his findings under the operation of this law, the State auditor estimates that there are inconsistencies in the accounts of many of our townships.

## *Definite Suggestions Offered*

Early in the work to improve town reports, it became evident that if any great improvement were to be brought about in the reports, it would be necessary for someone to work with the town officers in their own townships. Many town officers said: "Yes, it is an excellent idea; we should like to improve our town report, but how are we going about it?" In 1936-37, I had the pleasure, as county agricultural agent, of working with all the town officers in Caledonia County. Ideas for improvement found in one town were taken to other towns. After the circuit of the 17 towns in Caledonia County was covered for 2 years in succession, it seemed advisable to print a collection of these ideas. As a result, in November 1938, a collection of suggested features for Vermont town reports was published by the Vermont Agricultural Extension Service and given general distribution throughout the State.

In many town reports, the treasurer's report and the departmental reports did not check. In some cases, they failed to check within a few thousand dollars. Total costs of departments were not given; neither were the net costs of these departments. What the distribution of tax moneys had accomplished for the taxpayers was not clearly shown. The reports were unattractive, plain, and uninteresting.

By 1939 most of the 238 towns in the State had joined the contest which the State chamber of commerce was sponsoring for

the improvement of town reports. Based on the 10-point score card used by the chamber, most of the towns in the State had made one improvement or more in their report. In some cases, neighboring towns competed to see which one could publish the best report.

After the collection of suggested features for town reports had been discussed with town officers, it became apparent that two things were necessary. First, these suggestions needed to be applied to an actual town so that people could see how the suggested form would actually look when filled in with figures. Second, it was necessary to develop account forms which would aid the officers in keeping track of their business during the year and help them in preparing a report such as the people were beginning to demand.

I had the privilege of developing such account forms for the town of Johnson last year. The officers of this town became so interested in these forms that they worked with me in preparing what a year ago we called a "model town report." Copies of this report have been distributed to all towns in the State and have created much interest.

Last year, the State agricultural land use planning committee recommended in its report that meetings be encouraged at which town officers and other voters might study town affairs and methods of making more efficient use of tax money.

## *Town Officers Study Their Jobs*

Last fall, the State chamber of commerce, the Vermont Agricultural Extension Service (including county agricultural agents), the county farm bureaus, the State auditor, the State tax commissioner, the State highway commissioner, the State commissioner of education, the State director of old age assistance, and the department of political science at the University of Vermont, all cooperated in arranging and holding meetings for all town officers in the State. There were 6 of these meetings, and they were attended by more than 700 officers representing more than 70 percent of the towns in the State. Perhaps the most outstanding challenge which these officers received at these meetings was that given by State Auditor Benjamin Gates. Mr. Gates compared town government with a beautiful house sitting on top of a hill, affording a broad, pleasant view, where the opportunities for a pleasant home were unlimited. He said that town government may be like this house, but until the town officers move in, arrange the furniture, set up house-



keeping together, and make the home function, town government is just as bare as a bare house on the side of a hill. Many town officers went home from these meetings with the feeling that in their town they were keeping the town "home" only in part and that they needed to all move in and pull together.

Here is a job which the general public is demanding be done. The nature of the work is fairly well outlined. The town officers are anxious for help in keeping adequate accounts of the affairs of their local government. They are anxious to give the people a clear picture of their local government—what it costs them and what they receive in services for their tax money.

## Do You Know . . .

### Joseph H. Putnam

**Agricultural Agent of Franklin County, Mass., for 25 years**

■ Rural folk of his native Massachusetts know him well.

Through his untiring efforts to aid farmers and their families, not only in Franklin County but throughout the State, Mr. Putnam's name has become a household word signifying great ingenuity in the economics and problems peculiar to that area, according to the Greenfield Recorder-Gazette which ran a feature page on his 25 years of extension service.

"Joe," as he is familiarly known, is the oldest county agent in point of service in New England. He acquired the title recently on the resignation of Agent H. N. Wells, of Sullivan County, N. H., who had served a little more than 25 years.

"I came here in a war period," Mr. Putnam reminisced, "when all work was concentrated on increased production and conservation of food. This, after a lapse of time, suddenly looms again. There is also a gradual return to the community type of work in almost the exact pattern followed 20 years ago."

Extension workers did more fieldwork in the early days than now. Mr. Putnam said community meetings were conducted at least once a year in every county town. In some places there were more. These meetings and farm visits were of great value to both the farmers and the service, but because of the pressure of other work, these have had to be cut, he said.

Many of the most interesting experiences of extension workers took place with these meetings. Mr. Putnam recalled the trips by sleigh which started early in the morning. After the meetings he remained overnight in a nearby town and returned to Greenfield the next morning. The Extension Service Ford

Inasmuch as town officers are the elected leaders in their communities, few, if any, land use changes will come about except through the activities of these officers. Many of them are reluctant to take up new ideas until they know where they are with respect to their present town government. If these same town officers can be assisted first with the problem which is bothering them most, that of conducting their town government, then they will be ready and anxious to consider advisable changes in the use of land. They will be willing to discontinue some roads, to improve others, to establish community forests, and to cooperate with such community projects as are, in their judgment, worth while.



### Death Takes Veteran Forester

Wilbur R. Mattoon, an extension forester with the Federal Service for about a quarter of a century, died on March 4 following a heart attack.

One of the first to recognize the need for the application of forestry to farm woodlands, as far back as 1917 he assisted the Extension Service in organizing a farm-forestry program, particularly in the Southern States. He has been untiring in his efforts for sound practices in timber growing by private owners in the South. He was the first extension forestry specialist employed in the Department of Agriculture, and as early as 1915 established in Tennessee a farm-forestry demonstration which is recognized as being the first in the South. He also surveyed and laid out the first reforestation experimental plots in the South at the Clemson State Experiment Station, near Summerville, S. C., 29 years ago.

He was the author of a score of Farmers' Bulletins on forestry, published by the United States Department of Agriculture and many miscellaneous publications, posters, and articles for scientific and popular forestry publications and lumbering and farm periodicals. Nearly all of his writings were illustrated by his own photographs, many of the before-and-after pictures which he took showing phenomenal growth of southern pines and their response to fire protection and other improved forestry practices which have aroused so much interest in forestry in the South. He was also co-author or author of forest tree manuals for 16 States and the District of Columbia.

In his many years of cordial and inspiring cooperation with State extension foresters, county agents, and leaders in agriculture, he blazed a pathway for farm forestry and won marked distinction in this field.

was usually put away in the middle of December and not taken out again until the last of March.

In these early days there were extension schools which lasted 4 days in a community and were open to both men and women. These schools have been largely supplanted by various commodity associations; such as the dairy-herd improvement, county poultry, county fruit, market gardeners', and beekeepers' associations. Most of the groups meet once a month. County Agent Putnam meets with the officers of these organizations and specialists to lay out the program for the year.

The history of Franklin County extension work and Agent Putnam's extension career have developed simultaneously. Extension work had been organized in the county only a little more than a year when Putnam came to Greenfield, January 1, 1916, as agent for the Service, then called the Farm Bureau. In the fall of that year the first home demonstration agent was added to the staff.

### On the Air

A series of 19 radio talks on Our Daily Food is in progress in Wisconsin over the State-owned station WHA, Madison. The talks go on the air every Friday and will continue until July 25. The series gives information on adequate foods, particularly for rural families whose total income is less than \$1,000, and emphasizes the importance of adequate nutrition for national defense. Each talk is aimed to bring out the necessity of doing something about insuring adequate nutrition in our daily food.



# They Find Expression in Song

■ Folk singing has for centuries been popular in the Old World. People from all walks of life gathered to sing together, and from these gatherings has grown much great music.

America is carrying on the traditions of the Old World in folk singing. For example, Kittitas County in the State of Washington, is building a singing tradition. Town, countryside, and college of an area nestled in the shadow of the Cascade Mountains are joining in the development of a community-singing spirit. Three years ago the movement started, and already the Kittitas County chorus has presented two great musical works—Elijah and The Messiah. Now the group is engaged in preparation of its third annual concert.

## *Club Executive Board Helps*

In the fall of 1938 the chorus had its formal inception, although the urge for group musical expression had been at work long before that time. As continued expressions of the need for community singing were heard, the executive board of the Kittitas County home demonstration clubs stepped into the lead.

A committee of three women and two men was appointed by the executive council to take charge of the organization of a community chorus. This committee immediately drew into its folds Wayne Hertz, director of music at the Central Washington College of Education, located in Ellensburg, the county seat of Kittitas County. Mr. Hertz has continued to serve as director of the chorus.

On November 21, 1938, the first meeting of persons interested was called. Thirty-eight men and women responded and laid plans for practice and program dates. Each member present promised to bring another music lover to the second session. At that second meeting, 70 people were in attendance, and the chorus was started along its road. The group decided to present the oratorio, Elijah, as a spring concert.

Throughout the winter the chorus practiced. Many members drove 15 to 20 miles over snow-choked country roads to attend the practices. Absences were rare.

As the time for the presentation of the program approached, the county chorus was joined by the A cappella choir of the college and the college orchestra. On April 5, 1939, the combined groups presented the oratorio before a packed audience in Ellensburg. So well was the performance received that a second concert was given in nearby Yakima on April 16, again before a crowded house.

Enthusiastic after their hearty reception and thrilled with their love of music, members of the group continued the work. On November 19 the group sang before a meeting of the Washington State Farm Bureau convention,

and their fame spread throughout the entire State.

Continuing their practice through a second winter, the chorus, now grown to some 200 voices, presented Handel's The Messiah before large audiences in Ellensburg. In this endeavor they were again joined by the college organizations. Hampered by flu epidemics during the past winter, the chorus is nevertheless now moving forward with plans for the 1941 concert.

Although crowds have been large and enthusiastic at the public performances, members of the chorus do not feel that therein lies their chief reward. Rather it is the opportunity to meet together and sing good music that forms the basis for the success of the Kittitas County Chorus.

One of the moving spirits back of the chorus has been Jessie Boeckenheuer, Kittitas County home demonstration agent. Concerning the development and aims of the chorus, Miss Boeckenheuer says:

"What we hope to do is to develop an interest in holding community sings throughout the county, so that everyone will learn to enjoy the better classes of music. In 5 years

we shall begin to see results. We plan next year to hold some community sings and perhaps to do some broadcasting. We had hoped to do broadcasting this year but did not have the time. At first we shall start with familiar songs and then work into the better classes of music.

"What we are trying to do is to develop leadership in conducting community sings in each little community in the county. Already there is more singing at farm bureau and grange meetings in our county than there was before the chorus was started."

Throughout Kittitas County, people speak of the chorus with pride; and members and their friends alike feel that it is something of their own which is unique in its inception and growth. The practices and rehearsals of the group have served to bring together rural, city, and college people in a way that has ramifications far beyond the bounds of music.

All members of the chorus and others interested in the movement have been profuse in their praise of the part that Director Hertz has played in the development of the group. Mr. Hertz has given unstintingly of his time and talent from the very inception of the project, and many feel that he is responsible for the present state of development of the chorus.

## What Becomes of 4-H Club Members?

■ A survey made in 11 States of 2,453 former 4-H Club members averaging 27 years of age shows that 4-H Club training develops rural leadership and helps boys and girls to prepare for their life work. Names of several hundred former club members were selected in 2 counties in each of the 11 States, and about 1 out of every 5 was interviewed. Approximately 6 percent of the records were obtained from those who had left the county in which they had done their club work. The men and women had been 4-H Club members on an average of 3½ years during the period 1920 to 1927. Half of the men and 14 percent of the women had carried livestock projects; 35 percent of the women had followed sewing activities; one-third of the men had carried crop projects; and one-third of the women, food projects.

When the survey was made, 55 percent of the men were farming; a third were farm owners, and about one-half were farming as tenants and farm hands. Thirty percent of the women had married farmers. Over a third of the men and a fourth of the women had married club members. In all, 60 percent of the men and 65 percent of the women were married.

Eleven percent of the men and 22 percent

of the women interviewed had entered professional work; 8 percent of the men and 2 percent of the women were engaged as proprietors, managers, or business officials; 12 percent of the men and 13 percent of the women were engaged as clerks and kindred workers. About 16 percent of the men and 4 percent of the women were engaged as skilled and semiskilled workers. Less than 1 percent of the men and only 5 percent of the women were not gainfully employed at the time this study was made.

Slightly more than a fourth of the men and women were currently cooperating with extension work in some capacity. Less than 10 percent of them were connected with 4-H Club work. Three-fourths of them were members of local organizations in which less than one-fourth of the men and one-third of the women held offices or were local leaders of 4-H Club members.

The study was made in 11 States by Erwin H. Shinn, of the Federal Extension Service, in cooperation with State club leaders and county agents to determine what former club members are doing, the evaluation they place on their 4-H training and the bearing it has had on their present vocations. Most of the young people were interviewed personally.



# 4-H Dairymen Build Up Their Herds

**J. W. POU, Assistant Agent, Iredell County, N. C.**

■ After 10 years of active Jersey calf club work in the county under the leadership of A. R. Morrow, county agent, a large group of club members had outstanding registered Jersey females which they had either purchased to start in Jersey calf club work or had raised from their 4-H heifer. None of these calf club members could afford to buy or keep an outstanding Jersey sire with a herd of just two or three good females. It was, therefore, decided that the best way to improve the good heifers that these club members already had was to purchase an outstanding Jersey sire to be owned by the calf club and to give all members an equal chance of using him. By pooling their service fees, the club members were able to pay more for a sire than it would have been practical for any one member to pay individually.

In making plans to obtain a bull cooperatively, the group knew that an outstanding

viding for a board of 5 directors, consisting of the president, the vice president, the secretary-treasurer, and two additional members elected by the stockholders. At the first meeting, the organization was set up and the election held. The board of directors looks after all the details and business transactions of the Association. The 28 charter members decided that they would allow other 4-H Jersey calf club members to come into the association upon application and that their membership would be decided upon the basis of the quality of the Jersey females they own.

The charter members of the association each took stock in the bull in proportion to the number of females they own. Each share of stock entitled the stockholder to one service fee. The shares were sold at \$5 each, and 100 shares were taken up in order to pay for a bull.

After looking at several individual bulls

old at the time of his purchase by the club; and it was necessary, with such a large number of shares of stock, to confine his service to the stockholders. Later, the club hopes to be able to let other club members having good females use the bull for the regular service fee.

The stockholders appointed Fred Morrison, who lives on a farm just 4 miles west of Statesville, as custodian of the bull. This farm was a central location for the various stockholders over the county, and the club decided that it would be much more convenient and practical to keep the sire at a central location rather than to move him from farm to farm. The bull was insured for his value, so that in case of accident or death none of the stockholders would stand the risk of losing the shares of stock they had bought in the association.

At the close of the first year of operation of the association, the board of directors met and decided to hold a meeting of the stockholders in January. A full report on the activities of the association was given, new officers were elected, and membership applications were considered.

The stockholders who have animals sired by Morrocroft Designer are very well pleased with them; and, even though all the animals are still young, it appears that Morrocroft Designer is going to be well worth the trouble and expense the club members put forth in obtaining him.

The association expects to use the bull they have for several years, depending upon the results obtained. Then they will either sell the bull and put the price received from him toward another bull; or, if the association is large enough at that time, they will keep the present bull and buy another sire with a pedigree suitable to use on the daughters raised from Morrocroft Designer.

## 4-H Dairy Program

The number of 4-H Club dairymen in New Hampshire and the quality of their animals and of their work reached a high point in the year 1940, reports State Club Leader C. B. Wadleigh.

The 364 members enrolled in 4-H Club dairy work own 412 animals valued at \$33,716. A decided increase is shown over the enrollment of 5 years ago, when 266 members had 299 animals valued at \$16,383.

Many of the 4-H dairymen are developing sizable herds of their own, as well as the ability to show cattle and to carry on project work. One 4-H Club member in the State now has a herd of 10 animals; another has a herd of 6, and many 4-H Club dairymen now own 2 to 4 animals.

■ Of the 118,000 acres of cultivated land in Anson County, N. C., 58 percent produced soil-building crops in 1940.



This outstanding Jersey sire is the property of 28 young calf club members who formed a cooperative bull association. The first calf is shown on the right exhibited by the proud owner.

individual, with a pedigree of both performance in production and type, would have inestimable value in improving their present stock and would not cost a great deal more than a bull with ordinary pedigree which would be worth practically nothing in improving the type and production of the females they owned.

The first step in forming the association was for the group to meet, elect officers, and form an association with rules for each member to abide by. The association was organized with 28 charter members and called the Iredell 4-H Jersey Bull Association. A constitution and bylaws were drawn up pro-

which were considered good prospects, the group decided to select Morrocroft Designer, 399092, bred by Morrocroft Farms at Charlotte, N. C., as the sire to be used by the group. Morrocroft Designer is out of an imported cow, Imported Samares Royal Interest, and sired by Royal Designed, one of the outstanding bulls on the island. The dam is being put on test at Morrocroft Farms with the expectation that she will win a gold medal. Both sides of the pedigree of Morrocroft Designer show unusually good records in both production and the parish shows on the island.

Morrocroft Designer was only 14 months



■ The REVIEW inaugurates Extension Research—a page devoted to the science of extension teaching. This new monthly feature is in response to the formal action taken by the State extension directors at the 1940 annual meeting of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, requesting the Federal Extension Service to “prepare and issue periodically a publication summarizing the research in extension completed and underway during the period.”

It is important that county and State extension workers bring to our attention not only all theses and other formal studies of extension teaching but also those seemingly small studies which might not otherwise be made available in published form. Such information may be highly significant to other extension workers wrestling with similar problems. Comments on the material reviewed, including honest differences of opinion as to the interpretation of the research data presented will always be welcomed.

More and more the scientific or fact-finding approach is being applied to the organization and conduct of extension. As members of a scientific profession, we are all interested in improving organizational procedures and teaching techniques. We all have a responsibility toward contributing to the development of a scientific body of information that will help to eliminate guesswork, and gradually replace subjective opinions with objective evidence.

## Master's Theses Under Way

Missouri extension workers studying for master of arts degrees at the University of Missouri under the revised rulings of the graduate school are conducting research for their theses on the following extension problems:

### State staff members:

- Albert Hagan, agricultural economics specialist—Farm management extension.
- Kenneth Huff, agricultural engineering specialist—Farm home and farmstead improvement.
- Parker Rodgers, State extension agent—How many people are being reached by extension and in what degree.
- Eugene Brasfield, district supervisor, Farm Security Administration—Farm Security teaching methods.

### County home demonstration agents:

- Ruth Muhleman—How recreation may contribute to rural living in Perry County, Mo.
- Iola Meier—Recreation an aid to extension development.
- Anita Dickson—Factors affecting reader interest in extension news stories.

### County agricultural agents:

- Dorris Brown—Trend of agricultural extension work in Warren County, Mo., over a 10-year period.
- R. J. Martin—Factors that should be considered in community organization.

# EXTENSION RESEARCH

## Studying Our Job of Extension Teaching

J. U. Morris—The value of community organization in carrying out an extension program.

Arnold Barber—Beef cattle production practices in Lewis County, Mo.

C. C. Keller—Rural social planning.

R. J. Laughlin—Farm management extension in Clay County, Mo.

Alva Mix—Sheep management practices in Schuyler County, Mo.

O. V. Singleton—Farm flock records and the poultry extension program.

Earle T. Steele—System of farming for Jefferson County, Mo.

William E. Yates—Pasture improvement practices in Taney County, Mo.

Horace Hunt—Types of people who attend extension meetings.

John Rush—Bindweed eradication campaign for Chariton County, Mo.

Virgil Sapp—Some phase of extension methods. (Subject not definite.)

Webb Embrey—Extension methods involved in live-at-home agriculture.

## Educational Growth of 4-H Boys and Girls

Members and nonmembers of 4-H vegetable garden projects in Middlesex County, Mass., in 1939 were given tests based on 4-H Club vegetable garden literature. One hundred and eighty-one members and 409 nonmembers (a “check plot”) were tested at the beginning of the project period in April and again at the end of the project period in September to determine and to compare the amount of subject matter each group learned.

The members began with an average score of 59.2 points and ended with an average score

of 66.7 points, making a gain of 7.5 points. The equivalent group of nonmembers began with an average score of 59.2 points and ended with an average score of 63.1, making a gain of 3.9 points. The data show that the members learned subject matter and that they learned about twice as much as the check group of nonmembers, as shown in the graph below.

Such factors as age of the boys and girls, grade and progress in school, and whether or not they lived on a farm, were tested to determine which would be needed as equating factors to make the groups of members and nonmembers equivalent.

This is the first in a series of evaluation studies being conducted by Dr. Fred P. Frutchey, of the Federal Extension staff, in cooperation with State extension workers to measure the effects of 4-H Club work on boys and girls in terms of 4-H educational objectives. The study, reported in Federal Extensive Service Circular 353, includes measurements of five other 4-H objectives. Other studies are under way in Arkansas, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, and Missouri and will be reported as the results are analyzed.

## Why People Burn the Woods

Following one of the worst fire seasons in many years, Georgia extension workers went to the farmers themselves for the answer to this question. Extension Forester H. C. Caruth conducted a State-wide survey in which 1,805 farmers gave their opinions.

The chief reasons given and the number of farmers reporting on each were:

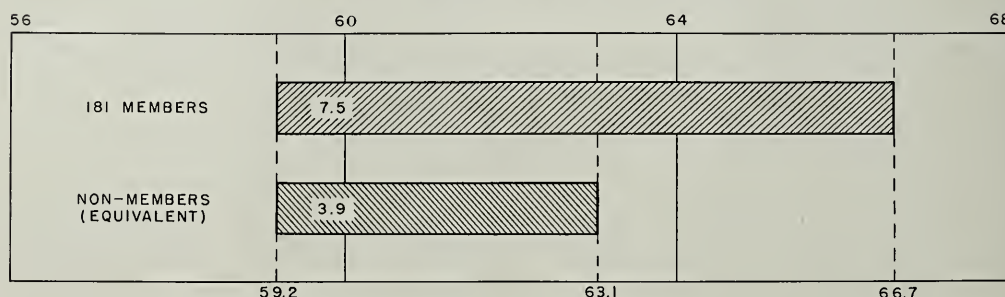
Better or earlier grazing.....	357
Kill snakes and insects.....	325
Destroy boll weevils.....	243
Reduce hazards.....	118

The causes advanced most frequently were:

Ignorance, indifference, and carelessness..	319
Burning fields, terraces, and hedgerows....	101
Smokers.....	35

The results of the survey were presented at a meeting of all the forestry agencies operating in the State called for the purpose of planning a united educational program to reduce woods burning.

Growth in Subject-Matter Information





# Summer Schools Beckon Again

■ Plans for 1941 training courses for men and women extension workers have been announced by 12 colleges in 11 different States. As in former years, a comprehensive extension curriculum will be offered by resident faculty members, instructors from other universities, and staff members of the Federal Extension Service.

Some of the high lights of the short-period courses scheduled for the coming summer are given here. Several of the States have not completed their summer-school arrangements. Further details will be published in the May issue of the REVIEW. More information can be obtained from any of the institutions listed below.

*Cornell University, July 7-25.*—After a lapse of several years, Cornell University returns to the summer-school field with the most comprehensive list of extension courses ever offered there for men and women extension workers.

Especially timely is the course, *Meaning and Problems of Democracy*, which will be given by M. L. Wilson, Director of the Federal Extension Service; John W. Herring, associate supervisor of adult education, New York State Education Department; and Thomas Swayne Barclay, professor of political science, Leland Stanford University.

Objectives and Program of Extension Work will be taught by A. L. Deering, Maine extension director. Round-table discussions will be held for each of the three branches of the Extension Service. The agricultural agents will be led by E. A. Flansburgh, New York county agent leader, and the home demonstration agents by Grace Henderson and Helen P. Hoefer of the Cornell staff. The 4-H seminar will be conducted for 3 successive weeks by Ray Turner and Charles E. Potter, of the Federal Extension Service; and W. J. Wright, New York State club leader. The following extension courses will be given by other members of Cornell's faculty: *Psychology for Extension Workers* by Paul J. Kruse, *Land Use and Agricultural Planning* by Forest F. Hill, *Rural Community Organization* by Dwight Sanderson, and *Problems of Farm Families as a Basis for Programs* by Grace Henderson and other resident faculty members.

*Columbia University, June 9-July 1.*—Of special interest to extension workers studying for an advanced degree is the intensive course in *Rural Sociology* with Edmund de S. Brunner as instructor.

*Arkansas, June 12-July 3.*—Plans are being completed for the second in-service training summer session of the University of Arkansas. In addition to courses given by resident faculty members, Gladys Gallup of

the Federal Extension Service is slated to give a course in extension methods.

*Colorado, June 14-July 3.*—The fifth consecutive summer school scheduled at the Colorado State College of Agriculture on an area-training basis continues to expand in its extension training program. The extension curriculum includes: *Agricultural finance*, which will be given by W. I. Myers of Cornell University; *The Rural Home* by Connie J. Bonslagel, Arkansas home demonstration leader; *Methods in Extension Work* by Meredith C. Wilson, of the Federal Extension Service; *Land Use* by W. E. Grimes of Kansas State College; *Agricultural Marketing* by Roy M. Green, president of Colorado State College; and *Rural Sociology* by R. W. Roskelley of the resident faculty.

*Florida, June 23-July 12.*—Barnard Joy of the Federal Extension Service will give an intensive 3-week course, *Organization and Conduct of 4-H Club Work*, at the University of Florida's second summer session for extension workers. Other courses including *Rural Housing* are being contemplated.

*Indiana, June 16-July 5.*—An intensive 3-week course in *Rural Sociology* to be given by Lowry Nelson of the University of Minnesota is scheduled for Purdue University's fifth annual summer-school offering. Under the Indiana plan, graduate credit is granted for only one course taken in the 3-week period.

*Louisiana, June 9-28, June 28-July 19, July 19-August 9.*—Three consecutive sessions of 3 weeks each are scheduled for extension workers at the University of Louisiana for the coming summer. The work is arranged so that students may enroll for one, two, or all three periods. The most comprehensive curriculum is scheduled for the first 3 weeks. Of special interest is the course, *Organization and Conduct of 4-H Club Work*, to be given by Assistant State Club Leader M. M. La Croix who has been on sabbatic leave during the past year doing 4-H Club research in the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Members of the University faculty will give the following: *Agricultural Land Use Planning*, *Current Problems in Marketing Louisiana Farm Products*, *Crops Problems*, *Livestock Production*, *Plant Materials*, *Household Mechanics*, *Nutrition*, *Home Furnishing*, *Art in Home and Family Life*, and *Marketing of Food*. Some of these courses together with a few additional subjects are scheduled for the second and third summer sessions.

*Missouri, June 16-August 8.*—In keeping with the University of Missouri's revised graduate training program enabling in-service extension agents to study for an advanced degree

in a series of short-period courses, work will be offered similar to last year's summer session. Courses in *Extension Methods* and *Program Planning* will again be given by State Extension Agent C. C. Hearne, and Fred P. Frutchey, of the Federal Extension Service, will teach *Psychology for Extension Workers*.

*New Mexico, June 5-28.*—This initial summer session for in-service extension workers arranged by the New Mexico College of Agriculture will include: *Improving the Rural Home*, to be given by May Cresswell, Mississippi home demonstration leader; and *Advanced Problems on Extension Methods*, which K. F. Warner, of the Federal Extension Service, is slated to give.

*Tennessee, July 7-August 6.*—The University of Tennessee announces its fifth annual summer school for men and women extension workers. The listings include: *Agricultural Extension Education*, by J. P. Schmidt of the Ohio Extension Service; courses in *Agricultural Engineering* by R. H. Driftmier, of the University of Georgia; *Agricultural Economics* by Walter Wilcox, of Iowa State College; *Nutrition and National Defense*, by Grace I. Neely, Texas nutrition specialist; and a course in *Recreation*. Tennessee University faculty members will give the following: *Horticulture* by N. D. Peacock; *Agronomy* by Eric Winters; and *Art Related to the Home* by Mary P. Charlton.

*Virginia, June 12-30.*—Summer study for in-service extension workers at Virginia Polytechnic Institute will include a course in *Extension Methods and Organization* to be given by Florence Hall of the Federal Extension staff, and the following resident-faculty offerings: *Demonstration Course in the Technique of Demonstration*, *Publicity Media*, *Vegetable Gardening*, *Nutrition*, *Advanced Clothing*, and *Household Equipment—Both Electric and Other Types*.

*West Virginia, June 12-26.*—For the second summer, the University of West Virginia will give a 2-week course in *Extension Methods* with R. B. Corbett, director of Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Maryland, as instructor.

## Popular 4-H Activities

Corn was the leading project among 4-H Club boys in 29 eastern Kentucky counties last year. A total of 1,892 club boys grew corn, several of them producing more than 100 bushels to the acre. Clothing was most popular among girls, 4,570 being enrolled in this project. More than 1,500 boys and girls grew strawberries. In many instances, 100 plants produced 20 gallons or more berries.

J. M. Feltner, field agent in 4-H Club work in eastern Kentucky, reports assistance from 27 service or luncheon clubs. They financed 4-H Club projects; attended club meetings; visited club camps; promoted shows and fairs; financed trips to district, State, and national meetings; and gave prizes and trophies for outstanding club work.





## John C. Kendall

New Hampshire has lost a great leader in the person of John C. Kendall, 64, director of the Extension Service of the University of New Hampshire, who died March 16, after 31 years of service in the Granite State and a lifetime of devotion to the cause of agriculture everywhere.

Born in Harrisville, N. H., March 13, 1877, he was early trained in farming and determined to make agriculture his career. In 1902 he graduated from the New Hampshire State College with a B. S. degree in agriculture.

Following graduation, he was asked to start the first dairy short course at North Carolina State College. For several years thereafter, he had charge of the dairy department at that institution. He attended the summer session of the first graduate school at Ohio State University, Cornell, Iowa State College, and Massachusetts State College. In 1907 he was appointed State Dairy Commissioner of Kansas and the following year took charge of the dairy and poultry departments at the Kansas State Agricultural College.

In 1910 he returned to his native State to become director of the New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station. In 1911 he began the program of extension in the State, as its director, and continued in charge of the steadily growing work until his death.

As director of both the Experiment Station and the Extension Service, Director Kendall became one of the best-known agricultural leaders in New England. The work took him into the national field, in which he rapidly gained recognition, and where his counsel and advice were constantly sought.

Under his quiet but effective leadership, the broad dual farm program of the Experiment

Station and the Extension Service spread to include every community in the State.

Two years ago, when the University of New Hampshire launched its broader extension program designed to take into the picture all the colleges on the campus and service for all the people of the State. Director Kendall was chosen to head the work, relinquishing his duties as director of the Experiment Station. In his 31 years of State leadership, he has directed the beginning and fostering the development of a program eventually designed to help every family in the State.

The director was a member of the Association for the Promotion of Agricultural Science, the Official Dairy Instructors' Association, the American Society of Animal Nutrition, and the Kappa Sigma, Alpha Zeta, Phi Kappa Phi, and Epsilon Sigma Phi fraternities. He had been a member of the Committee on Organization and Policy of the Land-Grant Colleges and Universities and was a member of the council of the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, chairman of the State Land Use Planning Committee, a member of the State Agricultural Conservation Committee, and a member of the Grange and the Farm Bureau.

## Public Affairs Discussion

A course in public affairs discussion was developed successfully in New Hampshire, according to Morris Storer, northeastern discussion specialist of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

The course was mapped out in *We, the People*, a bulletin which came from the pen of P. F. Ayer, extension specialist in rural organization and recreation, last spring: He says "A challenge to you—whoever or wherever you are—to enlist and serve as a discussion leader to promote 'thoughtful, consistent, and effective participation in the study and the fair solution of matters of public concern' by a group or groups of people within reach of your influence."

The Extension Service agreed to assist in conducting leader training meetings wherever 6 to 15 leaders could assemble for a series of 3 such meetings, punctuating series of local discussion meetings. In some counties training meetings have already been held, in others they are scheduled for coming months.

Sometimes groups are coming together just for the purpose of study and discussion. The encouragement of State leaders of the Grange, P. T. A., farm bureau, land use planning committees, or youth extension groups, coupled with Extension Service encouragement is leading local organizations to experiment more and more with the small group breakup of larger meetings for the sake of informal discussion under local leaders. In most counties of the State special county rural organization and recreation agents are active as assistant county agents spending part of their time helping with discussion programs. This

is made possible through cooperation with W. P. A.

Typical of the work being done is the discussion group of 20 in Loudon which has been meeting once a month in the homes of members for discussion of town problems. Problems of town finance have come up first for study. "Wouldn't miss a meeting for the world," one member says. In plans for the December town meeting, the group was called on to hold a public conversation on Should the town vote to instruct the selectmen to trade the present tractor and plow for new equipment . . . ?

## Colorado Farm Women Meet

More than 1,200 Colorado women attended the tenth annual meeting of the State Association of Home Demonstration Clubs, breaking all previous attendance records. Arapahoe County led, with 129 members present, and Jefferson County followed closely with 128. Three women from Mesa County came more than 300 miles to attend the meeting.

For the past 3 years, 1 club has been chosen each year as the State master home demonstration club, and last year 12 other clubs were named associate master clubs. This year instead of only 1 club winning the honor of State master club, all clubs attaining a score of 3,700 to 4,000 points became State master home demonstration clubs; and clubs scoring in the next lower bracket of 300 points, between 3,400 and 3,700, were named associate State master home demonstration clubs. Ruth McCammon, State home demonstration agent, awarded certificates to 11 State master home demonstration clubs and to 34 associate State master clubs.

Clubs taking part in the contest are members of the Colorado State Association of Home Demonstration Clubs, an organization formed in January 1931, when a little group of 50 women from widely separated parts of the State met in Denver while in attendance at the National Western Stock Show.

From the small original group, the membership now includes 11,000 women who are members of 522 home demonstration clubs in 43 of the 63 counties in Colorado, the remaining 20 counties being in mountain districts. There were 188 of these clubs represented at the meeting.

■ Summer schools for Negro extension workers will be held at Tuskegee Institute from May 26 to June 14, and at Prairie View College from June 16 to July 5. Erwin H. Shimm, of the Federal Extension Service, will teach Organization and Program Planning at Tuskegee, and Psychology for Extension Workers, at Prairie View. Additional curricula will be offered at both institutions by resident faculty members and outside lecturers.



## IN BRIEF

### Negro 4-H Clubs

Georgia's 1940 enrollment of Negro 4-H Club members was 29,046, an increase of more than 1,000 over the year before. The total enrollment includes 18,757 girls and 10,289 boys. Alexander Hurse, Georgia Negro 4-H agent, reports that Negro club members last year fattened and sold 216 feeder calves, 10 of which were home-grown. The other 206 animals were bought through aid of Georgia banks for \$11,053 and sold for \$14,414, a gross profit of \$3,361 above cost of calves.

### Elevator Short Course

The North Dakota Agricultural College made its facilities available to 36 assistant managers and "second men" of elevators in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Montana who held an intensive short course on the campus early in the year.

Sponsored by the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association of St. Paul, the short course was the first of its kind ever held at the college. The men made a detailed study of the grading of small grains, cooperative marketing principles, elevator management, and bookkeeping procedure. Lectures and demonstrations on these subjects were presented by college specialists, United States Department of Agriculture officials, and experienced elevator managers. The success of this first conference has prompted the cooperating parties to plan for similar meetings to be held annually.

### ON THE CALENDAR

Convention of General Federation of Women's Clubs, Atlantic City, N. J., May 20-24.  
National AAA Annual Conference to Consider the 1942 Program, Washington, D. C., June 10-13.  
National 4-H Club Camp, Washington, D. C., June 18-25.  
American Home Economics Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Ill., June 22-26.  
American Dairy Science Association Annual Meeting, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt., June 23-27.  
American Association of Agricultural College Editors, Kingston, R. I., July 13-19.  
Regional Conferences on Adult Education and Defense, Spokane, Wash., April 8-10; Minneapolis, Minn., April 17-19; Albany, N. Y., April 24-26; Norris, Tenn., April 27-29.

■ In South Carolina's home-improvement campaign, 512 farm homes were built in 1940, 2,800 homes remodeled, and extensive interior improvements made in 6,000 farm homes.

### Former 4-H Club Members

A survey has just been completed by R. A. Turner, of the Federal Extension Service, which shows that 31.10 percent of the students now enrolled in agriculture and home economics at the agricultural colleges in 36 States and Puerto Rico are former 4-H Club members.

The actual number of former 4-H Club members enrolled during the present college year is 11,272. The total enrollment in these courses is 36,247. This is the first time that a Nation-wide survey of this type has been undertaken.

For the college year 1940-41, Illinois ranked first, with 50.34 percent of these students being former 4-H Club members; Nebraska second, with 49.54 percent; Indiana third, with 47.15 percent; Georgia fourth, with 44.79 percent; Alabama fifth, with 44.34 percent; Kansas sixth, with 43.25 percent; and Arkansas seventh, with 41.18 percent.

Many of these students made their first contact with the agricultural college through their 4-H Club activities. It is probably true that the awarding of scholarships to 4-H Club members has been a factor in encouraging attendance at the State colleges of agriculture. It is evident, in view of these data, that the 4-H Club movement is fostering a desire on the part of 4-H Club members to obtain additional scholastic training, and is directing an increasing number toward the agricultural colleges.

### 18-Point Program

An 18-point balanced farming program recently adopted for Negro farm families of Granville County, N. C., shows the way to better living in 1941. For each Negro farm family of the county, the program, drawn up by Negro Farm Agent J. R. Redding and the county advisory council, suggests: A year-round garden. 1 to 3 milk cows, a good home supply of meats, plenty of canned fruits, vegetables, and meats, a home-grown supply of fruits and vegetables, a brood sow to each 5 families in the community, 50 to 100 chickens, plenty of corn and other grain for livestock, plenty of hay for livestock, 1 acre of seeded pasture for each head of livestock, winter cover crops for soil improvement, potatoes for home and market, wheat to produce bread for the family, cane for molasses, enough cotton to buy clothes for the family, a definite timber-management program, a well-planned terracing program to control soil erosion, and proper management and use of barn manure so as to cut fertilizer costs.

## AMONG OURSELVES

■ ON SABBATIC LEAVE in Washington, D. C., are D. L. Hayes, agricultural agent in Madison County, N. Y., for the last 15 years; and two Ohio extension specialists, J. A. Slipper, agronomist, and Charles L. Blackman, animal husbandman. They are doing research in the Department of Agriculture on various extension problems. Mr. Blackman is doing research in the Bureau of Dairy Industry; Mr. Slipper is studying the farm-unit approach to extension teaching; and Mr. Hayes is making a study of news stories. Mr. Hayes and Mr. Slipper are also taking courses in the second semester of the U. S. D. A. Graduate School.

Rounding out their in-service training courses in Washington are Hazel S. Dunn who has returned to her 4-H Club agent duties in Schenectady County, N. Y., and M. M. La Croix, Louisiana's assistant State club leader, who will resume his official extension duties in June. He is scheduled to give a course on organization and conduct of 4-H Club work at the University of Louisiana Extension Summer School.

■ UNDER OHIO'S sabbatic-leave plan nine extension workers of that State are studying in various parts of the country. In addition to the two specialists doing research work in the United States Department of Agriculture, L. P. McCann, extension animal husbandman, is studying at Purdue University; Helen D. Brown, home agent of Trumbull County is taking a 4 months' course at Teachers' College, Columbia University, and Claude I. Hummel, Lorain County agent is at Cornell University.

Enrolled at Ohio State University are Raymond E. Cray, extension poultryman; Gerald E. Ferris, extension radio editor; George B. Ganyard, Richland County agent; and George W. Kreidler, Licking County agent.

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# KEEP "IN STEP" WITH THE SPRING PARADE

When Spring dons her new dress will home-makers in your county want to know more about buying cotton for new clothes and for furbishing the house?

With cotton stamps to spend, the agents in the South will be called on for more information about cotton goods.

The Bureau of Home Economics has the following bulletins to help you:

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Farmers' Bulletin 1778.

Judging Fabric Quality. Farmers' Bulletin 1831.

Cotton Shirts for Men and Boys. Farmers,  
Bulletin 1837.

Women's Dresses and Slips—A Buying Guide.  
Farmers' Bulletin 1851.

Slip Covers for Furniture. Farmers' Bulletin 1873.

If You Had \$25 in Cotton Stamps What Would  
You Buy? Extension Service Circular 352.

Three new film strips have been prepared by the Extension Service in cooperation with the Bureau of Home Economics.

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65 frames, 55 cents.

Series 592. Slip Covers for Straight Chairs, 64  
frames, 55 cents.

Series 594. Stepping Out in Cotton, 31 frames,  
50 cents.

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U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D. C.

